



have a Very Merry Christmas



VISITORS TO LEARN

The four best chemistry students at the new Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific will attend the University of Victoria over the Christmas holidays in an experiment that may lead to wider co-operation between the two institutions.

In an arrangement made between Dr. A.D. Kirk, Chairman of UVic's Chemistry Department, and Dr. W.C. Tan, Head of Chemistry and Sciences at the College, the four will not only observe, but also take part in research under the voluntary supervision of Dr. Robert O'Brien and Dr. Reg Mitchell.

The students are Gonzalo Mendieta, Ecuador, Kwok-Leung Li, Hong Kong, Lutz Urban, Germany, and Martin Hallertd, Sweden.

Pearson College, which opened this fall at its ocean site near Sooke, has a student body of 100 from all over the world, and who, upon graduation, will receive an international baccalaureate, entitling them to attend any university of their choice. Ranging in age between 15 and 17, they entered the college with an equivalent of grade 11 experience.

In approving this opportunity for these four students to experience graduate level research, J.M. Dewey, Dean of Academic Affairs, commented that this co-operative adventure is "something of an experiment which, if successful, might well be extended to a number of other disciplines in the future."

John Reeves, Chemistry's Administrative Assistant, noted that the arrangement is "an outgrowth of an exchange of ideas and teaching methods that has existed between this Department and the College."

Mr. Reeves said the Chemistry Department has been supplying input into Pearson's science programme since its earliest planning. "We're the nearest university to the college, and we are interested in their success. Therefore we want to help them, especially in their formative stages."

He said the Pearson students will take part in on-going research so as to give

them practical experience, and they will also be instructed "in a sort of tutorial arrangement."

The students will commute each working day between December 18 and January 7.

This "field trip" will be paid for by the College, although Drs. O'Brien and Mitchell have agreed to meet from their own research funds any additional costs that might be incurred for chemicals and materials.

Mr. Reeves said Pearson students are all top-calibre and they are being taught by an international staff which is heavy in academic credentials.

"WHO IS SHE?"

About four years ago Dr. Rodney Symington (Germanic Languages and Literature) was in Vancouver giving a talk to a German-Canadian club. Afterwards, an elderly woman came up to him and asked: "Will you translate my book?" He looked at her somewhat in disbelief and thought to himself: "Who is she?"

It turned out she was Else Seel, whom Dr. Symington had been vaguely aware of before. He agreed to read her book, *Canadian Diary*, which had been published in Germany in 1964, and found it to be "a terrific story".

He became friends with this remarkable woman and translated the book. It will be published soon by Harvest House of Montreal, but Mrs. Seel died in February this year at the age of 73, just before it was accepted by the publisher.

Dr. Symington has now acquired her entire literary estate for UVic, and once he organizes the several boxloads of her prolific output he will turn it over to Special Collections in McPherson Library.

He said he will also be acting as literary executor and will prepare much of it for publication.

"It's beautiful stuff. Everything is based on direct experience, with nothing of the artificial that is common in modern writing."

The estate includes drafts and manuscripts of already published works (Mrs. Seel had become a well-known writer in Germany when she was a young woman living in Berlin), as well as all her diaries and notebooks, the manuscripts of a large number of unpublished poems and short stories, and even a novel. There is also voluminous correspondence, among which are more than a hundred letters from poet Ezra Pound to Mrs. Seel, and from several other writers, including Peter Russell, who was UVic's writer-in-residence last year.



Dr. Symington sifts through some of the writings of Mrs. Seel, who is pictured on the left just before her arduous Canadian experience began



Dr. Symington said Mrs. Seel's writings reflect a life of hardship and suffering.

Known as Else Luebke, she suddenly decided to leave the big booming city of Berlin in 1927 for the "simple life" in the wilderness of British Columbia, being disillusioned in love and with a life of growing literary fame.

She came to the tiny village of Wistaria near Ootsa Lake where she was met by George Seel, a man 15 years her elder. They married that very day.

He took her to his one-room log cabin, and after a week informed her he would be away for three months prospecting and trapping.

"The next morning she got up and discovered she didn't even know how to light a fire."

The Seels lived there for 25 years, cleared all the land, barely eking out a living. One year, during the Depression, their total income was \$69.

During the War, because they were German immigrants, they suffered the hatred of their neighbours, one of whom took a shot at Mrs. Seel when she was out for a walk with one of her two children.

Then, in 1948-49, because of Alcan's big aluminium development in Kitimat, which required a dam, the Ootsa Lake properties were doomed to become flooded.

At this time, Mr. Seel got caught above the snowline in sub-zero temperatures, returned to the cabin with pneumonia and died overnight.

Mrs. Seel then moved to Victoria with her family, and, after a few other moves, finally settled in Vancouver.

Her years of loneliness in the bush afforded her plenty of time to write, and this she did day and night.

Dr. Symington said it will take a good year just to read and organize all her writings, some of which are in English.

He noted that many of Canada's pioneers led unique lives, but died without describing how it was. "This makes Mrs. Seel even more special, because she was one of those rare pioneers who could write."

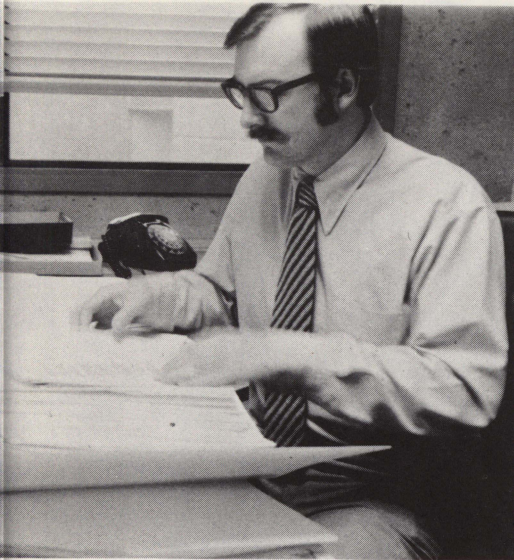
ON TOP OF WATER

UVic's Derrick Sewell (Geography) is a man immersed in the problems of water, be they in the deserts of Israel, the Ruhr Valley of West Germany, or at Victoria's Goldstream.

Dr. Sewell is back after a year's leave of absence during which he has produced, as Chairman of the United Nations panel on water, a handbook on flood losses in lesser developed countries. Moreover, he recently advised the Hungarian National Water Authority on ways to deal with pollution, undertook a study on the British water system, and began research on changes within the last 10 years in water management in the U.K., France, Hungary, Canada, U.S. and Holland.

He has also begun a study of publication participation in experimental water quality programmes in various countries.

Despite man's continued folly and waste in regard to water resources and



could be better engineered water mains. Arrid Israel is proving technologically innovative in its use of water. Besides using Swedish toilets, it wastes little water in irrigating land once desert. Polyethelene sheets are strung out over acres and acres, so moisture is not lost to evaporation, and pipes automatically drip water on to plants according to what they exactly need, and no more.

In contrast, as in Victoria, "most people kill lawns by too much water at the wrong time".

To stop thoughtless waste, Dr. Sewell advocates making water much less cheaper by charging the consumer according to the value he derives from it.

And although Canada has between 10 and 15 per cent of all the world's fresh water, he doesn't see any necessity in any of it being exported to the U.S.

"It is the best thing for us and for the Americans. It would preserve our environment and would force them to be much less wasteful than they now are."

Dr. Sewell sees headway being made in pollution control in such places as overpopulated Holland and the highly-industrialized Ruhr Valley in West Germany, where high effluent fees are charged to companies using the rivers. There, fees are used to create treatment plants. "This has worked well. The quality of water has become very pleasant."

As in water use, there are hopeful signs for pollution control on the technological front. "The more difficult problems lie in how the technology is used, and in creating continual awareness of ecology."

He said it seems to require a major disaster for people to become pollution conscious, and now the ecology issue, after perhaps too much panic attention, has given way to other issues, such as energy and inflation.

"There is a real danger if we don't continue to remember that all things depend on the environment."

In his role as a flood expert for the UN, Dr. Sewell draws on his over-all philosophy that man "should learn to live with nature rather than overcome it."

Developing countries, in the status race to build dykes and dams, do more harm than good to themselves, as in the case of the Asswan Dam in Egypt.

"If a country shifts a whole mountain, it also shifts everything else away, a whole environment, and the consequences of this could be manifested in disaster."

In Bangladesh, where floods have killed millions of people, efforts should be made to build future housing on stilts or on higher ground and to improve use of warning systems.

the environment, Dr. Sewell sees some hopeful signs.

The Swedes, for instance, have come up with a toilet that requires only one-tenth of a gallon of water for each flush, compared to North American toilets which use five gallons of pure water, and the average European toilet which flushes three gallons or less.

Dr. Sewell's view is that most areas of the world have more than enough water, but the problem is that it is needlessly wasted through inefficiency and squandering as typified in the millions of gallons lost each day in any city through toilets alone, and through leaks in what

DR. SEWELL . . . "learn to live with nature."



TRIUMF FIRES BEAM

After two years of planning and six years of construction, and a lot of work by physicists at four universities, including UVic, the \$30 million TRIUMF project at the University of British Columbia reached success at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 15.

The TRIUMF cyclotron had its first "beam out" — that is, production of a high energy proton beam (500 million electron volts) — after some delays due to technical difficulties.

"This means the whole system works," said Dr. Lyle Robertson, one of a dozen UVic men currently involved in the project, and who was there for the celebration with Dr. Doug Bryman.

He said the successful "beam out" was observed in beam-line monitors built by UVic.

When this happened "a lot of B.C. champagne began to flow".

TRIUMF (Tri-University Meson Factory) is a joint project funded by the Atomic Energy Control Board, and the participating universities of Victoria, British Columbia, Simon Fraser and Alberta. There are only two other meson factories like it in the world — in Zurich, Switzerland, and Los Alamos, New Mexico, and they are just in the commission stages.

Production of the proton beam means secondary particles called pi-mesons and mu-mesons can be derived, which will open up many areas of research in nuclear physics.

Several months of testing are still ahead before experiments go ahead.

Besides Drs. Robertson and Bryman, other UVic personnel involved are Dr. R.M. Pearce, who is on leave of absence for a year to be at the TRIUMF site as Associate Director, Dr. Grenville Mason, Dr. George Beer, Dr. Don Lobb, Dr. Charles Picciotto, Dr. Chi-Shiang Wu, Dr. Art Olin, Terry Hodges and Paul Reeve.

UVic's contribution has been mainly the design of beam lines and targets which was carried out in the basement of the Elliott Building.

VISITING WRITER

James J. McAuley, a poet and playwright who is well-known both in North America and his native Dublin, is to take up a position as visiting writer in January in the Creative Writing Department.

Professor McAuley directs the Creative Writing programme at Eastern Washington State and has for several years organized a summer school of writing to which

many leading novelists and poets have contributed.

The University of Missouri Press is about to publish his latest collection of poems, *After the Blizzard*, Poems 1969-73.

THE YEAR'S LAST

This is the last edition of *Around The Ring* for the year, but in its stead a special community issue will be inserted in The Victorian on December 30 and will be distributed on campus the same week.

The next regular issue of *Around The Ring* will appear on January 10.

We wish to thank the many people on campus whose co-operation helped bring many stories to the light of day, and the staffs of the UVic Print Shop and Media and Technical Services for their week-to-week assistance.

FACULTY NEWS

GEOGRAPHY

The Department announces its publication of "Themes on Pacific Lands", Vol. 10 of the *Western Geographical Series* edited by Dr. M.C.R. Edgell (Geography) and B.H. Farrell (University of California).

Contributors include both editors and Dr. R.W. Wikkramatileke, Dr. Chuen-Yan David Lai, Dr. M.A. Micklewright and Dr. C.N. Forward, all of the Department here.

These authors discuss a wide range of topics, including the growth of Singapore,

the quest for stability and development in Malaysia, Fijian land tenure, overcrowding in Hong Kong, the tourist ghettos of Hawaii, forest environments of Victoria (Australia) and coastal British Columbia, West Coast Canadian Fisheries and the Pacific trade of Vancouver.

Copies, at \$4 each, are available in the Department.

CREATIVE WRITING

Professor Robin Skelton, Department Chairman, has just had his poems of the last four years published by McClelland and Stewart under the title of *Timelight*.

A further collection of poems, *Fools Wisdom*, is scheduled to appear in Enitharmon Press in the spring. A prose work on the poetic experience, *The Poets Calling*, is to be published by Heinemann Educational Ltd. early in 1975.

ENGLISH

Dr. Colin Partridge has recently translated a story by the Soviet satirist Efim Zozulya, a contemporary of Zoshchenko and Bulgakov. It appears in the current issue of *The Nantucket Review*.

Dr. Patrick Grant's book *The Transformation of Sin: Studies in Donne, Herbert, Vaughan and Traherne* has recently been published. It was a joint publishing venture between McGill and Queens universities and the University of Massachusetts.

Dr. Bruce Wallis has recently had published at the University of Salzburg, in the Salzburg Studies in English Literature Series, a two-volume edition of Byron's literary criticism entitled *Byron: The Critical Voice*.

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, December 20

2:30 pm Meeting, Faculty of Education. MacLaurin 169.

WEDNESDAY, December 25

Christmas Day. UNIVERSITY CLOSED.

THURSDAY, December 26

Boxing Day. UNIVERSITY CLOSED.

1975

SATURDAY, January 4

7:15 pm Cinecenta Films. MacLaurin 144. "Modern Times" (1936) and "The Great Dictator" (1940).

MONDAY, January 6

4:00 pm Seminar, Department of Biology. Cunningham 1018. Dr. J. Von Borstel, Chairman, Department of Genetics, University of Alberta, will speak on "Spontaneous mutations".

TUESDAY, January 7

4:30 pm Tuesday Music Series. MacLaurin 144.
8:30 pm Men's Basketball. UVic Gymnasium. University of Regina vs. University of Victoria Vikings.

WEDNESDAY, January 8

7:30 pm Senate meeting. Cornett 112.

FRIDAY, January 10

12:30 pm Music at Noon. MacLaurin 144.
7:15 pm Cinecenta Films. MacLaurin 144. "The Owl and the Pussycat" (1970) and "The Seven Year Itch" (1955).

SATURDAY, January 11

7:15 pm Cinecenta Films. MacLaurin 144. "The Owl and the Pussycat" (1970) and "The Seven Year Itch" (1955).



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